



A Note for All Our Surgical Procedure Patients with Steri-Strips

Although this was a minor procedure, there is still a chance of complications. Some bleeding may occur. If so, apply pressure with a piece of gauze or facial tissue for a full 15 minutes. It is normal for healing wounds to feel slightly tender to the touch or itch and to look pink around the edges. A small amount of clear or lightly yellow tinged drainage is also normal. **Call the office (949-721-8300) or page Dr. Dimino (949-285-0177) if any of the following occurs:**

1. Bleeding persists after 15-20 full minutes of applied pressure.
2. Significant swelling at/around the site
3. Heat around the site
4. Redness, or red streaks near site
5. Pus and/or a foul smelling drainage from site
6. Severe pain that cannot be controlled by the use of Tylenol.
7. Fever/Chills in association with any of the above

Excision

Since you have stitches, special care must be taken to prevent infection:

1. Do not remove the dressing for 24 hours.
2. After 24 hours please remove the bulky pressure dressing, but leave the water resistant (Tegaderm) dressing and underlying steri-strips intact.
3. You can shower after 24 hours, but please avoid direct contact with the water on the site. Please do not submerge site in bathtub, ocean, pool, lake, etc.
4. Do not remove the Tegaderm (water resistant bandage). If the Tegaderm comes loose or water gets under it, please call the office.
5. Do not remove steri-strips. The wound could open if the steri-strips are removed.
6. Do not use Polysporin, Neosporin or other antibiotic ointment.
7. Avoid physical activity with the treated area until sutures are removed. Sometimes bending, straining, stooping, or lifting heavy objects can cause the surgical incision to bleed or open up. If the biopsy was on the face or scalp areas, avoid bending over, and sleep with 2 pillows (elevate head) at night.
8. For the first 48 hours: Do not take aspirin or ibuprofen products unless. Do not drink alcoholic beverages and/or take oral Vitamin E. (These can cause bleeding) Take Tylenol for pain.
9. To help decrease swelling and pain, we recommend applying ice over the bandage for 30 minutes on, 30 minutes off while awake during the first 48-72 hours after surgery.
10. Don't forget to return to the office for your suture removal as scheduled.

All patients are called with biopsy results as soon as they are received – usually within 2 weeks. If you don't hear from us within 3 weeks, please phone the office. If you have any questions regarding the care and healing of your wound, please do not hesitate to call our office at (949) 721-8300 or page Dr. Dimino at (949) 285-0177 (leave a verbal message and please allow Dr. Dimino at least 15 minutes to return your call.)